



Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure Newsletter

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Winter 2020

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Important Information Regarding MANDATORY KASPER ACCOUNT REGISTRATION and TRANSITION to Kentucky Online Gateway (KOG)

The Board would like to remind all licensed physicians of some important information regarding the requirement for mandatory KASPER Account Registration and transition to the Kentucky Online Gateway. Prior to procuring, dispensing or prescribing controlled substances to patients in Kentucky, a physician must have the following:

1. An active Kentucky Medical License
2. A DEA registration number specific for Kentucky. If you practice in more than one state or store controlled substances in multiple locations within Kentucky, you may be required to register for additional DEA numbers. DEA Registration Information DEA Contact Information
3. **An active KASPER (KYs Prescription Monitoring System) account.** Registration and information is available below:

Notice for Physicians without a KASPER Account:

Pursuant to KRS 218A.202, ALL licensed physicians (for ALL licensure types, i.e. residency licenses, full regular licenses, etc...) with an active KY DEA registration in their name **MUST** register and maintain an account to use KASPER. Failure to register and maintain a KASPER account and access it via KOG, while authorized to prescribe or dispense controlled substances, may result in disciplinary action – including emergency suspension or restriction - against a medical license. A person is authorized to prescribe or dispense a controlled substance to a person physically located in KY, if they maintain an active KY DEA registration, regardless of whether they use or plan to use such authority. If you are unsure if your DEA is active or if you have a DEA registered in KY, you may call the DEA Registration Support Office at 571-362-6905.

After February 28, 2020, the Board will conduct a formal audit in order to determine compliance with this requirement. Noncompliance after February 28, 2020 may result in emergency suspension or restriction against a medical license.

Notice for Physicians with Existing KASPER registrations regarding Transition to KOG

As mentioned above, KRS 218A.202 requires that ANY person authorized to prescribe or dispense controlled substances (i.e. an active DEA registration) must be registered and maintain use of the KASPER system. Since April 30, 2019, this requires more than having a KASPER account; it requires that you transition that account to Kentucky Online Gateway (KOG), the new secure portal required to access KASPER. In discussions with representatives from the Office of Inspector General, it is our understanding there are a number of physicians who initially signed up for a KASPER account but are not able to use the system because they still have not taken steps to transition to KOG.

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Board Orders can be viewed under the Physician Profile/
Verification of License link on the Board's website:
www.kbml.ky.gov

Board Action Report (actions taken since 10/01/19)

Henry D. Babenco, M.D., Kuttawa, KY, License # 37712
Agreed Order of Permanent Surrender entered into
10/17/19.

Richard W. Bailey, Bowling Green, KY, License # 38418
Amended Agreed Order entered into 11/27/19.

Paul M. Bolger, M.D., Davenport, IA, License # 47867
Agreed Order entered into 10/17/19.

Feliz Brizuela, D.O., Harrison City, PA, License # 03998
Order of Revocation issued 12/12/19, effective
01/18/20.

Wigberto C. Camomot, M.D., Red Jacket, WV, License # 24558
Agreed Order entered into 11/21/19.

Mary R. Clifton, M.D., Plantation, FL, License # 51817
Agreed Order entered into 11/12/19.

Lance C. Dozier, M.D., Norton, VA, License # 23058
Agreed Order entered into 11/21/19.

Wayne R. Edwards, M.D., Pikeville, KY, License # 34226
Seventh Amended Agreed Order entered into
11/07/19.

Thomas N. Epperson, III, M.D., Middlesboro, KY, License # 31838
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 11/26/19

Ralph T. Fossett, M.D., Morehad, KY, License # 14451
Agreed Order entered into 10/22/19.

Robin B. Garelick, M.D., Hampton, VA, License # 49725
Agreed Order entered into 11/12/19.

Robin B. Garelick, M.D., Hampton, VA, License # 49725
Order Terminating Agreed Order entered into
11/22/19.

Mark F. Guilfoyle, D.O., Jefferson, NH, License # 04103
Agreed Order entered into 11/27/19.

Scott R. Hamann, M.D., Nicholasville, KY, License # 32055
Sixth Amended Agreed Order entered into 11/26/19.

Sarah E. Hill Hartlage, M.D., Louisville, KY, License # 49527
Agreed Order entered into 10/31/19.

Yancey R. Holmes, M.D., Maysville, KY, License #37247
Agreed Order entered into 11/04/19.

Thomas G. Hughes, M.D., Louisville, KY, License # 34678
Fourth Amended Agreed Order entered into 11/07/19.

Thomas Knox, M.D., West Hartford, CT, License # 51416
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 10/11/19.

James T. Lutz, M.D., Cincinnati, OH, License # 28577
Order Terminating Amended Agreed Order issued 10/22/19.

John M. Mullins, M.D., Lexington, KY, License # 30990
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 12/26/19.

Charles R. Noplis, MD., Louisville, KY License # 44044
Agreed Order entered into 12/09/19

Ikenna S. Nzeogu, D.O., West Liberty, KY, License # 04652
Agreed Order of Fine entered into 10/10/19.

Chandra M. Reddy, M.D., Glasgow, KY, License # 32087
Third Amended Agreed Order entered into 12/02/19.

Saad Sakkal, M.D., Mason, OH, License # 45727
Order of Revocation issued 12/12/19, effective 01/18/20.

Christopher T. Stokes, M.D., East Bernstadt, KY, License # 38216
Third Amended Agreed Order of Probation entered into
11/18/19.

Abdolkarim Tahanasab, M.D., Frankfort, KY, License # 17210
Agreed Order of Surrender entered into 10/17/19.

Onyinyechi R. Uradu, M.D., Ashland, KY, License # 40541
Order of Probation issued 11/22/19, effective 01/01/20.

Jennifer E. Vice, PA-C, Richmond KY, License # PA872
Agreed Order entered into 12/12/19.

W. Gregory Ward, M.D., Asheville, NC, License # 52913
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 10/29/19.

Randall Gregory Whitlock, Jr. PA-C, West Chester, OH, License #PA904
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 10/22/19.

Restrictions have also been placed on the following
physician's license pending resolution of charges
brought against her.

Rachel L. Short, M.D., Richmond, KY, License # 38956
Complaint and Emergency Order of Restriction issued
11/05/19, effective 11/06/19.

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Linking the two accounts allows you access to query KASPER outside an integrated health system, review your Provider Report Card, delegate office personnel to query KASPER on your behalf, and audit your reverse KASPER for fraudulent activity. **Failure to transition to KOG in order to be able to use the KASPER system may result in emergency action against a medical license.**

***Instructions on how to transition to your old KASPER account to KOG or obtain a new KASPER account may be found on the Cabinet for Health and Family Services KASPER website:

<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/os/oig/dai/deppb/Documents/MandatoryKASPERKOGAccountInstructions.pdf>

For questions regarding your KASPER account, please contact the KASPER Help Desk at (502) 564-2703. If you have questions about KOG, please contact (502) 564-0104, option 2.

***All physicians should familiarize themselves with when and how often to KASPER patients as well as other requirements listed in Board prescribing controlled substances regulations. Info can be found at the KBML's website: <https://kbml.ky.gov/prescribing-substance-abuse/Pages/default.aspx>.

KBML KASPER ACCOUNT REQUIREMENTS FAQ

Here are some of the most common questions regarding KASPER registration for physicians. For additional information or questions regarding the required KASPER registration, please contact eKASPER.Administration@ky.gov.

Question 1: I am retired, but keep an active medical license and Kentucky DEA registration for emergency purposes. I do not dispense or write prescriptions for controlled substances. Do I need to maintain a KASPER account?

Answer 1: Yes. All licensed physicians with an active Kentucky DEA registration must register and maintain a KASPER account regardless of whether you plan to use such authority. If you do not desire, or are unable to conform to all KBML controlled substance prescribing and dispensing regulations you may want to retire your DEA number by calling DEA Registration Support at 571-362-6905.

Question 2: I am a Kentucky licensed physician; however, I practice in Texas and my DEA number is registered to my practice address in Texas. Do I need to maintain a KASPER Account?

Answer 2: No. Only physicians who are licensed to practice medicine in Kentucky and have a Kentucky DEA registration are required to maintain a KASPER account. A Kentucky specific DEA number is required to prescribe or dispense controlled substances in Kentucky because DEA registrations are state specific. If you return to practice in Kentucky and transfer your DEA to a Kentucky address or create a new Kentucky DEA registration, you are required to register with KASPER at that time.

Question 3: Several years ago, I registered with KASPER when first required, however I am in a group practice now and someone else runs KASPER reports for the entire practice. Must I still have my own access to KASPER?

Answer 3: Yes. A physician may only request KASPER reports for their current or prospective patients. You must link (onboard) your existing KASPER account to the new secure KOG portal as soon as possible and run KASPER patients under your name. You may designate one or more delegates to run reports under your account, and any delegate can be designated under multiple physician accounts within your office, but it is important you ensure they know to select the correct physician for whom they are requesting each patient report. Call the KASPER Help Desk at 502-564-2703 if you need help with this process.

Question 4: I am a Kentucky licensed physician serving in the military. Do I need to maintain a KASPER account?

Answer 4: Yes. If you have a Kentucky medical license and a Kentucky DEA registration, regardless of whether you are a military practitioner, you are required to maintain a KASPER account.

Question 5: I am a Kentucky licensed physician; however, I practice telemedicine from my office in California and prescribe controlled substances for some Kentucky patients. Do I need to maintain a KASPER account?

Answer 5: Yes. According to the DEA you must have a DEA registration in the state where the patient receiving treatment is located, and all practitioners with a Kentucky DEA registration must maintain a KASPER account (see FAQ #1).

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KBML KASPER ACCOUNT REQUIREMENTS FAQ

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Question 6: I am a resident practicing at a hospital in Kentucky and using the hospital's DEA to write prescriptions. Do I need to maintain a KASPER account?

Answer 6: No. However, if you have a DEA registration in your name to have controlled substance prescriptive authority outside the hospital's scope of employment, you must maintain a KASPER account. Even without your own DEA registration, you are required to follow board regulations and review KASPER patient reports in certain situations. If your hospital does not utilize a KASPER institutional account to obtain reports, you should obtain your own KASPER account using the hospital DEA. If you terminate employment with that hospital, you should update the DEA number on your KASPER account by calling the KASPER Help Desk 502-564-2703.

Attention physicians enrolled as Kentucky Medicaid providers

Providers whose licenses are due for renewal with the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure (KBML) before April 1, 2020, are asked to renew at least 15 days prior to their license expiration date and no later than March 15, 2020.

The Board coordinates with the Department for Medicaid Services (DMS) to transmit updated license information electronically. A copy of your KBML license no longer must be submitted to DMS until revalidation or maintenance action is required.

Providers not updating their licenses with KBML by March 16, 2020 must submit license renewal verification through the Kentucky Medicaid Partner Portal (KY MPPA) to update their provider files.

Note: Providers with out-of-state licenses may submit updated licensure information through the KY MPPA.

KASPER Tips: Identifying Patients Who May Have Experienced a Drug Overdose

Jean Hall

KASPER Integration Project Manager

Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services

KASPER now includes the capability for users to request information from the Kentucky Health Information Exchange (KHIE) to determine if a patient has been seen in the emergency department of a licensed acute care hospital or critical access hospital for a non-fatal or suspected non-fatal drug overdose.

After entering the required patient demographic data in the KASPER Request Report screen, the user may place a check in the box preceding the text, "*Check the Kentucky Health Information Exchange for suspected drug overdose information for the patient*". KASPER transmits a request containing the patient information entered by the user. When KHIE receives the request, a search is performed to determine if an ICD-10 code indicating a suspected drug overdose and/or a toxicology screen with a positive result has been reported from Admissions, Discharge and Transfer data. Based on the request to KHIE, KASPER will display one of the following responses:

- "KHIE contains suspected drug overdose information for this patient. You may wish to confirm with your patient." - This means that a match was found for at least one of the conditions above.
- "This patient was not found in KHIE." - KHIE has no information matching the patient information provided in your request.
- "KHIE contains no suspected drug overdose information for this patient." - KHIE has information on this patient. But does not have any information on a suspected drug overdose.
- "KHIE contains information for multiple patients meeting the search criteria. You may wish to confirm with your patient." - KHIE has multiple patients that could match your request. Because it cannot be determined which patient matches, they did not return any results.
- "Unable to connect to KHIE to obtain drug overdose information." - An Error occurred in processing and no results are currently available.

"Suspected drug overdose" means an acute condition that:

- May include physical illness, coma, mania, or hysteria that is the result of consumption or use of a controlled substance, or another substance with which a controlled substance was combined; and

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KASPER Tips: Identifying Patients Who May Have Experienced a Drug Overdose

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- Relates to injury, poisoning by, or other adverse effect of any substance corresponding to the following International Classification of Disease (ICD) version 10 (ICD-10) codes, or equivalent codes in the most recent version of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems:
 1. T40;
 2. T42; or
 3. T43.

If the KHIE box was not checked for the report request, the KHIE message line will be blank.

For more information about KHIE visit their web site: <https://khie.ky.gov>. For KASPER questions or information, please send an email to eKASPER.Admin@ky.gov, or contact the Drug Enforcement and Professional Practices Branch at (502) 564-7985.

Important CME Reminder – Final Year of 3 Year Cycle

The Board would like to remind all of its licensees that we are now entering the third year of the Board's 3 year CME Cycle. Board Regulation 201 KAR 9:310 requires all physicians maintaining a current Kentucky medical license to complete sixty (60) hours of CME every three (3) year cycle, with thirty (30) hours being certified in AMA or AOA Category I by an organization accredited by the Accreditation Council on Continuing Medical Education (CME). Again, please note that the current CME cycle ends on **December 31, 2020**.

The Board would like to remind all licensed physicians to ensure that they obtain the appropriate continuing medical education hours to maintain compliance with this regulation. It is important to note the continuing medical education requirements related to 2012's HB 1, which went into effect in 2012, remain in effect. According to the regulation for each three (3) year continuing education cycle beginning on January 1, 2015, a licensee who is authorized to prescribe or dispense controlled substances in the Commonwealth at any time during that cycle shall complete at least four and one half (4.5) hours of approved continuing education hours relating to the use of KASPER, pain management, addiction disorders, or a combination of two (2) or more of those subjects. A licensee may satisfy this requirement by completing a single approved program of 4.5 hours or longer or by completing multiple approved programs for a total of 4.5 hours or longer for that cycle.

A summary of the Board's CME requirements is available on our website, www.kbml.ky.gov. Just click on the link for continuing medical education. You can also find information about approved courses that are available online.

Reports of Scams – Remain Alert

Previously, the Board announced a number of physicians throughout Kentucky received phone calls and correspondence claiming to be the Board threatening action against the physician's license unless a payment is received. It is our understanding these fraudulent activities have continued in recent weeks. With that in mind, the Board would like remind you that our office does not operate in this manner and any correspondence from the Board would appear on formal Board letterhead or from an email address ending with ky.gov. For instance, our general email is kbml@ky.gov. While the appropriate authorities have been made aware of these fraudulent attempts, the Board encourages all of its licensees to be on alert and are encouraged to contact our office at (502) 429-7150 in the event you want to verify official board communications.

Renewal of Medical License For 2020

The 2020 annual renewal notice was mailed to physicians in December 2019. Please note that state regulation requires all physicians currently practicing in the state to renew their license by March 1, 2020 and pay the \$150.00 registration fee in order to keep their license active. Renewals paid after March 1, 2020 but prior to the April 1, 2020 deadline, may be made by paying an additional \$50.00 penalty fee. Failure to renew your license by the April 1, 2020 deadline will cause your license to automatically become inactive and subsequent practice in Kentucky will be considered the unauthorized practice of medicine.

To renew your Kentucky license, please go to the Board's website, www.kbml.ky.gov, choose the physician renewal tab, click on the renewal link and log in using your Kentucky license number as your username and the last four digits of your social security number as your password. There is also a paper application on the website should you choose to renew your license by paper. There is an additional \$10.00 charge if you renew by paper application.

If you have any questions regarding your renewal or require assistance, please contact the Board at (502) 429-7150. The office is open 8:00 am to 4:30 pm EST, Monday through Friday.

**Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure
310 Whittington Parkway, Suite 1B
Louisville, KY 40222**

Change of Address Notice

The information you provide on this change of address notice will be used to update your profile on the Board's website www.kbml.ky.gov.

You may also change your address online by clicking [here](#).

Date: _____ License Number: _____

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Practice Address: _____

Practice County: _____

Office Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

*The Board does not publish your email address.